

- 1 6. A method for providing a purchaser of a portable  
2 audio system with a library of purchaser selected music  
3 titles stored in said audio system comprising:  
4 providing a database having a plurality of music  
5 titles, each title respectively represented by stored MP3  
6 compressed digital data;  
7 enabling said purchaser to select a set of said  
8 music titles;  
9 copying the MP3 compressed digital data  
10 representative of the set of purchaser selected music  
11 titles to a hard disk drive having at least 10 gigabytes  
12 of storage capacity within the housing of a portable  
13 audio system being purchased by said purchaser;  
14 said housing further including:  
15 at least one pair of audio speakers;  
16 means for decompressing said digital data;  
17 means for driving said speakers with said  
18 decompressed data to thereby present the music of said  
19 music titles; and  
20 means for manually carrying said housing while said  
21 music is being presented.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein said speakers are USB  
2 speakers driven by said decompressed digital data.
- 1 8. The method of claim 6 wherein said housing further  
2 includes means for converting said decompressed digital  
3 data to analog data; and wherein said means for driving  
4 said speakers drive said speakers with said analog data.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said housing further  
2 includes:  
3 a memory; and  
4 means for selectively accessing the data  
5 representative of a music title from the hard drive and  
6 storing the accessed data in system memory during the  
7 audio presentation of said music title.

FOR SEVEN

PORTABLE AUDIO SYSTEM HOUSING A PRELOADED PURCHASER  
SELECTED LIBRARY OF MP3 COMPRESSED MUSIC TITLES  
STORED ON A DISK HARD DRIVE

Abstract

5       A portable audio system which has 150 up to 500  
times the stored MP3 stored music title capacity of  
present day portable audio system memories. The portable  
audio system has a housing which encloses a hard disk  
drive having at least 10 gigabytes of storage capacity  
10 with a plurality of music titles stored on said hard disk  
drive as MP3 compressed digital data. There is also  
enclosed within the housing at least one pair of audio  
speakers, means for decompressing said digital data and  
amplifiers for driving the speakers with said  
15 decompressed data to thereby present the music of said  
music titles. The housing has a handle for manually  
carrying the housing while said music is being presented.  
With this implementation, which mounts the hard disk  
drive with the stored MP3 music titles directly within  
20 the carried housing, the portable system is provided with  
10 gigabytes or more of MP3 music title storage, which is  
at least 150 times the capacity of solid state memory  
devices. Accordingly, whole libraries or collections of  
music titles may be conveniently stored in the portable  
25 system.